

OBAMA et al. - 10/665,575
Attorney Docket: 008312-0306030

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1.-8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently amended) A paper sheet detection apparatus comprising:
a conveying device which conveys a paper sheet along a conveying surface;
a detection device which is provided opposite to the conveying surface and detects
[[a]] the paper sheet conveyed by the conveying device;

a guide device which is provided in at least [[the]] a paper sheet take-in side of the
detection device and ~~formed with~~ includes a pair of guide members disposed opposite to each
other at both side sides of the conveying surface, wherein one of the pair of guide members is
fixed and the other guide member is movable relative to the one guide member;

at least one ~~X~~ nozzle which is provided in the ~~each opposite side of the pair of guide members;~~
~~an energizing device which elastically energizes one of the pair of other guide~~ the
~~members member~~ toward the ~~other one~~ guide member, and

a gas supply device which generates a clearance between the pair of guide members
by moving ~~one of the pair of other guide members member~~ against the energizing force of the
energizing device, by supplying compressed gas to the pair of guide members and ejecting
the gas from the nozzle between the pair of guide members.

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10. (Currently amended) The paper sheet detection apparatus according to claim 9,
wherein the guide device is provided in the paper sheet take-in side and a take-out side of the
detection device.

11. (Withdrawn) The paper sheet detection apparatus according to claim 9, further
comprising a plurality of grooves provided at a certain interval on ~~the conveying surface~~ of said
pair of guide members in ~~the~~ paper sheet conveying direction and in ~~the~~ direction orthogonal
to the conveying direction, and a plurality of nozzles provided at least in ~~the~~ parts surrounded
by said plurality of grooves on ~~the~~ ~~opposite sides~~ of said pair of guide members.

12. (Withdrawn) The paper sheet detection apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said

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~~in~~ ~~s~~ ~~v~~ ~~that are~~
plurality of nozzles are disposed ~~in~~ ~~columns~~ ~~parallel~~ ~~to the paper sheet~~
~~conveying direction, and~~ ~~the~~ ~~interval between the outermost nozzle column~~ ~~is set wider than~~
~~the width dimension of the paper sheet in the direction orthogonal to the conveying direction.~~
a

13. (Withdrawn - Currently amended) The paper sheet detection apparatus according to claim 9, wherein one of said pair of the other guide members ~~member~~ consists of a plurality of divided guides divided vertically and horizontally along the paper sheet conveying direction and the direction orthogonal to the conveying direction; and each of the divided guides is ~~movable~~, and has ~~nozzles to eject compressed gas.~~

one of said at least one

14. (Withdrawn - Currently amended) The paper sheet detection apparatus according to claim 9, wherein one of said pair of guide members consists of a plurality of divided guides divided over the paper sheet conveying direction; each of the divided guide parts has a nozzle to eject compressed gas; the gas supply device controls the supply of ~~compress~~ compressed gas to said plurality of divided guide members by switching the pressure and flow rate to be different at a certain cycle, and moves a pressure fluctuation or a flow rate fluctuation of the compressed gas ejected from the nozzles of said plurality of divided guides along the paper sheet conveying direction.

15. (Withdrawn) The paper sheet detection apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the gas supply device generates a pressure fluctuation or a flow rate fluctuation of the compressed air blown out from the nozzle, according to the height or the flow rate increment and decrement of the pressure of the compressed gas supplied to the divided guides.

16.-23. (Canceled)



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Date: 22 Sep 2005

To:	From: Thomas A. Morrison
Application/Control Number: 10/665,575	Art Unit: 3653
Fax No.: 703-905-2500	Phone No.: (571) 272-7221
Voice No.: 703-905-2045	Return Fax No.: (571) -273-7221
Re: Proposed Amendment	CC:
<input type="checkbox"/> Urgent <input type="checkbox"/> For Review <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> For Comment <input type="checkbox"/> For Reply <input type="checkbox"/> Per Your Request	

Comments:

Attached is a draft amendment that amends claims 9 and 11-13. Also enclosed is a copy of an Interview Summary that will be mailed to you. Please take a look at these documents and let me know if the proposed amendment is acceptable to your client. If so, I can enter it by an examiner's amendment. Also, please let me know how to proceed with claims 14 and 15.

Regards,
Examiner Tom Morrison

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